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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : National Phase of PCT/EP03/10427

Applicant : Theo BURCHARD et al.

Filed : Herewith

TC/A.U. : Unassigned

Examiner : Unassigned

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination on the merits.

***Amendment to the Specification*** begins on page 2 of this paper.

***Amendment to the Claims*** begins on page 3 of this paper.

***Amendment to the Abstract*** begins on page 6 of this paper.

***Remarks/Arguments*** begin on page 7 of this paper.

An ***Appendix*** including a clean copy of the substitute specification is attached following page 7 of this paper.